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**(54) SWITCHING CIRCUIT  
PROVIDED WITH  
OVERVOLTAGE  
PROTECTION CIRCUIT**

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To protect a load, a control circuit, etc., from an overvoltage and to simultaneously prevent the sudden driving of the load at an off-time by compulsorily setting power MOSFET in an off-state even when it is in an on-state and allowing . . .

a discharge current releasing the overvoltage to flow at the time of the overvoltage.

CONSTITUTION: When the overvoltage is impressed on a power source, a constant voltage holding means 10 operates and the discharge current is allowed to flow in such a way that it absorbs the overvoltage of the power source to control the rise of a power voltage. Since a voltage is generated in a voltage detected part 12 when the discharge current flows, an overvoltage time detection means which detects the generation of the voltage transmits an off signal from a driving control means 16. Thus, the load, the control circuit 16, etc., are protected from the overvoltage, and the sudden driving of the load at the off-time can simultaneously be prevented.

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